

# SPACEMAKER

McClellan Air Force Base, Calif.

Jan. 22, 1999 Vol. 40, No. 2

## AT A GLANCE

### ABW Officers Commander's Call

The next 77th Air Base Wing Officers Commander's Call will be Feb. 4 at 3 p.m., in the theater in Bldg. 237. This is a mandatory formation for all ABW Officers.

Any questions or suggested topics for presentation may be directed to 1st. Lt. Lorena Bailey, 643-0077.

### Service Station shuts down

The Base Service Station, Bldg. 376 on Dudley Street, will close everyday, including holidays from 7:50 to 8:30 a.m. The shut down is necessary to allow the staff to take inventory.

### Raiderettes come to McClellan

Meet the Oakland Raderettes at the Base Clubs and Flashbacks Superbowl parties Jan. 31. For more information call 643-3526.

### McClellan hosts prayer breakfast

McClellan's annual celebration of the National Prayer Breakfast will be observed Feb. 11 at 7 a.m. in the NCO Club. This year's guest speaker will be former astronaut Charles Duke.

Tickets are \$5. They can be purchased through the base Chapel or each unit's first sergeant. See related article on Page 5.

### Tax help offered

Volunteer Income Tax Assistance, free tax assistance filing federal and California personal income tax returns will be available for McClellan members beginning Feb. 3.

This service will be by appointment only Monday through Friday from 9 a.m. to noon and from 1 to 4 p.m. at the Northeast corner of Bldg. 250HH. Call 643-2437 for an appointment.

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U.S. Air Force photo by Kenn Mann

### Another song and dance

Tops in Blue, the U.S. Air Force's premier entertainment group, will highlight American songs and music from the 1920s to present day at the Sacramento Memorial Auditorium Feb. 1 at 7 p.m. The showcase titled "Red, White, Rythmn and Blue" celebrates America and 45 years of entertaining audiences world wide. The show is free and open to the public. Seating is first come, first seated. For more information, call 643-4822.

## Center earns AFMC award for maintenance

Edward Rivera  
Staff Writer

Overcoming base closure and workload transition obstacles, while transferring work and continuing their mission earned the Sacramento Air Logistics Center the 1998 Air Force Materiel Command Maintenance Effectiveness Award in the large depot category.

The depot maintenance performance during 1998 represents an incredible management accomplishment at a closing installation. In the face of losing significant numbers of critical skills to other Department of Defense and private agencies, incurring major shifts in the funded workload mix and reductions to the F-111 and F-15 aircraft, manufacturing and support, software, and area base tenant workloads, the Center was still able to come out ahead \$46.9 million.

"The competition was close, but Sacramento made the biggest impact on the board," said Senior Master Sgt. David A. Creech, AFMC maintenance award coordinator.

"Winning Air Force Materiel Command's nomination for the award is a tremendous accomplish

SEE MAINTENANCE AWARD, PAGE 11

## Readiness Division named best in AFMC

Edward Rivera  
Staff Writer

Members of the 77th Civil Engineer Group Readiness Division take their name serious. They're ready to respond, train and work with other organizations for better community support.

This preparedness is what garnered the eight-member team best Readiness Flight in Air Force Materiel Command. The unit was awarded the Colonel Frederick J. Riemer Award for best readiness flight and will compete at the Air Force level.

"We worked hard in all areas, putting forth a great effort throughout the year," said Tech. Sgt. Troy L. Stalvey, Readiness Division chief. "It feels great to be recognized like this."

The bulk of this team's success lies in three main areas; contingency response, training and being proactive with the local community and the Red Cross.

Prepared for anything, the readiness team showed their ability by managing the McClellan Emergency



U.S. Air Force photo by Edward Rivera

Staff Sgt. Paul J. Kineke (right), readiness plans and operations non-commissioned officer in charge and Senior Airman Lance Chi, readiness logistics technician demonstrate a mask fit test using an M-41 protection assessment test instrument.

Response Center and mobile command post during the worst fire in McClellan Air Force Base history. During a plating shop fire, they aided in the evacuation of 350 workers and helped in salvaging an \$18 million facility.

The key to the success during the plating shop fire emergency was the implementation of the Disaster Preparedness Plan," said, Staff Sgt. Paul

J. Kineke, readiness plans and operations non-commissioned officer in charge. "Because we trained under the plan we knew what to do before we had to do it."

Being prepared in case of an emergency is only part of their charter, preparing others for disasters is another. As a three-member instructor staff maintained their regular

SEE READINESS DIVISION, PAGE 11

## Action Line

643-3344

Action Line  
77 ABW/CC  
5241 Arnold Ave.  
McClellan AFB, CA 95652-1086

e-mail: Actionline

Since I've been your wing commander, I've had much opportunity to hear from you on how we can make things better. This **Action Line** has been a key avenue and remains a good means to obtain feedback on how we're doing and how we can improve.

If you have or see a problem, try to work it through the responsible agency or activity first, since that will provide the most rapid resolution or action. If you still can't get the problem resolved, then try to work it through your chain of command. If the problem still exists after you've taken these two steps, then let me know so we can try to help.

In your request, please be brief, but include enough information to address the entire issue. Also, please let me know the specific action you want taken. I need your name, duty phone, and address so that we may send you a written response. I treat each call very seriously and read each response. If I feel the issue is of interest to the entire McClellan community, we may also print it and the



Col. W.P. "Bear" Ard  
77th Air Base Wing commander

response in the *Spacemaker*.

Our overall goal is to better serve you. In this same vein, we also like to highlight those areas that provide high quality or exceptional support, so we can build upon and expand them. To do these things, I need your involvement.

I also welcome your input in other ways. On a quarterly basis, I hold Town Hall meetings with community members, and I regularly meet with various groups on base (the Chiefs, First Sergeants, etc.). Please plug into one of these avenues to get your voice heard. You have a say in how we serve you!

## Base Phone Numbers

AAFES.....	920-0537
Civilian Pay.....	643-6725
Civil Engineering.....	643-5624
Civ. Personnel.....	643-2860
Commissary.....	643-4954
Crime Stop Hotline.....	643-6161
Dining Hall.....	643-5092
Family Support.....	643-1106
Focus Center #1.....	643-5661
Fraud, Waste & Abuse.....	643-6000
Housing.....	643-6221
Legal.....	643-3150
Lodging.....	643-6223
Medical.....	Appointments..... 643-8400
	After Hours..... 643-7212
TRICARE	
Service Center.(800) 242-6788	
Military Pay.....	643-6965
Military Personnel.....	643-1094
Public Affairs.....	643-6127
Retiree Activities.....	643-2207
Security Forces.....	643-6160
Services.....	643-6660
Social Actions.....	643-3322
Supply.....	643-5213
Uniform Questions.....	643-4051

## Your Say

How do you plan to use your 1999 pay increase?



"On our new baby. We are expecting our first baby Feb. 14."  
Master Sgt. Joey Ichinaga  
777th Civil Engineer Squadron

"Pay bills and give my kids a raise in their allowance."  
Nina Sims  
Contracting Office



"Save for future unemployment."  
Philip Hite  
Electro Optic Division

"Invest it."  
Airman 1st Class Christina Singca,  
77th Medical Group



## Commissary Crisis

**Q** Recently while shopping at the commissary, I needed some items that were not on the shelf. When I asked why the items I needed were not available, an employee told me the commissary had changed companies and they didn't know when the items would arrive. I asked for help in ordering the items but he just gave me a tab to write down numbers. A second employee insisted I could only order the items by the case, but I only needed two. What can be done to improve the commissary's customer service?

**A** I have spoken to the commissary officer, Larry Johns, regarding this matter. He wanted me to assure you that customer service is his top pri-

ority. He counseled both employees you mentioned in your Action Line, reiterating the importance of providing our customers the best possible service. They were both sorry this situation occurred.

The proper procedure would have been for either of the employees to fill out a special order form and get back with you by phone when the products you requested had arrived. The cards which you can complete yourself are at three locations throughout the store. They can be handed in to the courtesy booth.

Again, the commissary officer regrets you had this bad experience, and hopes your next visit is more enjoyable. If you have any other concerns, please contact Larry Johns at 643-1174.

## Want to spend

**Q** I can't purchase items in the commissary with my ATM card from a major bank. Why is that?

**A** I spoke with the commissary officer, Larry Johns, and this is a list of Credit/Debit cards currently accepted for purchases at the commissary: Visa, Master Card, Discover, AFFN, Instant Teller, Bank Mate, Cash Station, Honor, Explore, MAC, NYCE, Interlink, Maestro, Pulse, Tyme, Shazam.

If the ATM card you use is not on this list, contact the commissary officer directly and he will do everything in his power to get it loaded into their system. He can be reached at 643-1174.

## Faded paint

**Q** I am a civilian employee who wishes to continue in Federal Service. I was thrilled to know all other civilian employees were allowed to register for Priority Placement Program the week of Jan. 11. My question is, are there plans to issue letters that may be used as attachments to employment applications where proof of involuntary separation is required? This letter would enable us to seek our own employment with DoD, rather than rely entirely on the PPP.

**A** Upon request, the Civilian Personnel Office will provide a letter, which can be attached to applications indicating the employee will be separated as a result of base closure by July 13, 2001. However, it is generic since we cannot state you will be involuntarily separated on a specific date. It is our understanding that some federal activities will accept the letter and give some type of special consideration. There is no requirement for special consideration. The letter recently issued on early PPP registration for all McClellan employees may also be useful. If you are interested in continued DoD employment you are encouraged to register in the PPP program. PPP registrants will always be considered first and no letter can be used in lieu of PPP registrants.

### Air Force Vision

"Air Force people building the world's most respected air and space force ... global power and reach for America"

Air Force Materiel Command Vision  
"Quality Systems for America's Air Force"

Sacramento Air Logistics Center Vision  
"Completing the mission of McClellan AFB with professionalism and honor"

## SPACEMAKER

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### SPACEMAKER

Bldg. 200, Room 125  
(916) 643-6100

<http://www.mcclellan.af.mil/PA/spc.htm>

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# Pondering healthcare, Medicare, base closure

**Col. Edward F. Torres**

Administrator  
Deputy Group Commander  
77<sup>th</sup> Medical Group

Nationwide and in the rural communities surrounding Sacramento, Medicare Health Maintenance Organizations are closing at an alarming rate. However, good things are currently being planned for McClellan Medicare beneficiaries after base closure.

One in every three Medicare beneficiaries in California is in an HMO. Of the nearly 55,000 DoD beneficiaries in Sacramento County, roughly 28 percent are eligible for Medicare. That number is increasing.

The number of HMOs rejecting Medicare is on the rise. However, most of those are in the rural areas surrounding Sacramento. To keep afloat, they can no longer afford to stay in business under the discounted reimbursements managed care provides them, since they have a significantly smaller membership than do the big city HMOs.

Recognizing these issues, the Health Care Financing Administration, the agency responsible for Medicare, plans to offer a new pro-

gram, "Medicare + Choice" sometime in 1999. Meanwhile, if you're a Medicare beneficiary living in rural Northern California, you might find yourself without an HMO for now. Many beneficiaries either have to enroll in a Sacramento Medicare HMO, or if they desire to continue seeing their current doctor, they must do so under the traditional Medicare "fee for service" program. This program is similar to TRICARE Standard and involves higher out-of-pocket costs involving annual deductibles and cost shares. Most beneficiaries whose HMOs are withdrawing from Medicare may purchase "Medi-Gap" supplemental insurance that can help cover some of these higher out-of-pocket costs, regardless of their health condition or status. The cost for Medi-Gap insurance will be more than what an individual pays for HMO-style Medicare. Basic Medi-Gap coverage costs about \$1,200 a year and does not cover prescription drugs. To exercise this right, you must stay enrolled in your current plan until Dec. 31, and you must purchase Medi-Gap insurance by March 4th.

The 77th Medical Group has been working hard on several interesting projects so that health care will be

available for retirees after the base closes, whether they are Medicare beneficiaries or not. We are currently negotiating and planning to open a second satellite site for David Grant Medical Center at the 77th MDG's McClellan AFB Clinic around October. Like the other DGMC clinic, the VA will also operate this facility after base closure. Access to these clinics is limited to TRICARE Prime enrollees only, with space available appointments available on a very limited basis for Medicare eligible patients age 65 years and older. As a Medicare beneficiary, you will have access to specialty care at DGMC both now and after base closure. You are only excluded from the primary care component of the TRICARE program.

Your Medicare doctor can still refer you to DGMC for referrals and consults from the specialists on their staff.

You will also have access to the National Mail Order Pharmacy program both now and after closure, if you live within the zip codes affected by base closure. You can also use the pharmacies at DGMC, Beale, or at any of the DGMC satellite clinic locations, but the formularies for these small clinics may be limited.

Most military retirees are also eligible for care at VA facilities. Recent legislation has allowed the VA to treat all veterans with 10 percent disability or more for any health care problem they may have.

Our hope is that Medicare Subvention tests that are now being conducted at several sites across the U.S. will be successful. If approved by

SEE HEALTHCARE PAGE 5



Col. Edward F. Torres

## Two Thoughts

**Reach out to those who are important, be the person who makes a difference**

**A McClellan Member**

It was the end of a perfect day. Folsom Lake had seemed like the best place for my family and I to escape the heat of summer. All in all, it had been worth the effort, despite the holiday weekend crowds. Under a late afternoon sun, we found a suitable place to beach the boat for a picnic. The kids and I collected wood for a fire while my wife started dinner.

Looking back, I remember seeing a boat. The only thing remarkable about it was that the family onboard was having a great time as they watched their son bounce around at the end of a towrope. Even from 30 yards away, I could see each wave from the passing boats send his inner tube flying.

I had gone back to collecting wood when only moments later the sounds of laughter were replaced with screaming and crying. As I looked back onto the lake, their boat had turned and was headed toward the boy. He was nearly motionless, face down in the water.

Running to untie my boat and push it from the shore, I could see the mother and father frantically trying to retrieve their son as their daughter stood on the bow screaming.

Clearly there was something terribly wrong, but of the several boats passing within feet of the family, none took notice, no one stopped.

As I pulled my boat along side, I saw their son thrashing in his mother's arms. Though he was partially covered in towels, I could see horrible cuts to his head and upper body, but hardly any blood.

The father, obviously in shock, stood motionless in the middle of his boat staring at his son.

"Get your boat started and follow me!" I shouted. Slowly he complied, and we sped across the lake. As we neared the shore, it was apparent the dock and ramps were crowded with people moving boats in and out of the water.

Jumping onto the dock moments before the family arrived, I began to shout for people to get their boats out of the way, that an injured boy was coming in. I told the gathering crowd to call an ambulance, but got blank stares in return.

As the family pulled along side the dock, I saw the mother still cradling her pale, motionless son. Only his moans gave a hint of life.

I yelled into the crowd "I need a doctor and some help in here!" "He's a doctor," said a lady pointing to a man inside a large boat tied to the other side of the dock. "Get him over here now!" I responded.

Pulling back the towels, I found much of his face torn away, a large gash across his neck, and rope burns the length of his body. The strange part was, even with those terrible wounds, there was still no blood.

Looking up, I was still alone ... no one had come down to help. I pointed at a man on the dock. "Get down here and help me with his feet!" He hesitated, then complied.

"Where's the doctor?" I yelled. The lady on the dock pointed to the man still on his boat, but now he was on a cell phone. "What is he doing?" I demanded. "He is calling an ambulance," she said. Choking back anger, I looked him square in the eye. "Give that phone to someone else, get down here, and help me!" Reluctantly, he came and took the lead.

As I stepped back, I saw the dock was crowded with spectators. While one or two were helping,

I was sick with the realization that everyone else was just there to watch. The ambulance came to take the boy and his family away. I never did learn their names nor did I ever see them again.

That evening, a park ranger called. He told me the boy had died. Massive injuries had caused uncontrollable internal bleeding. There was nothing anyone could have done to stop it. I thanked him for calling and hung up the phone.

As I sat there, two thoughts struck me. I was amazed at how fast a perfect day had gone so terribly wrong for that family, how quickly their son had been taken from them. I ached at the possibility that maybe they had not had a chance to tell him how important he was to them, or how much they loved him. Then I realized it could have just as easily been my family. I began to question myself: When was the last time I had hugged my children; called my parents, or I told my wife I loved her? I also wondered if had I not been there, who would have helped them? Those who passed in their boats didn't. The people on the dock wanted no part. Even the doctor was reluctant to get involved.

I share this story because of the very important messages it holds. Don't take those you love for granted, because life is tenuous. Take advantage of every opportunity to reach out to those you feel are important. You may not get another chance.

Also, be the person who makes a difference; whatever the situation. Willingly step forward and take the lead. Yes, there will probably be risk and sacrifice involved. If you don't do it; who will? While the death of that child was a tragedy, we owe his family, and his memory, the honor of learning from their loss.

## Building transfer to LRA

Requires more than  
just getting people out

Dawn Young  
Staff Writer

As the days dwindle down toward closure, so must the number of buildings the Air Force occupies.

Having a building "ready" to be turned in, so it can be leased out by the Local Reutilization Authority, is more than just emptying out the people and locking the doors behind the last person.

A building first must be entered into the closure pipeline. This pipeline, which consists of clearing many checklists and a final walk-through, could take as long as 180 days to complete.

A walk-through is the process that departing organizations or units use to clear their portion of a building or an entire building. "There are three phases to a walk-through that must be completed before the keys can be handed over to the LRA," said Royce Harnsberger, Closure Division point of contact.

Phase one consists of a preliminary expectations meeting. Meetings are held the first Tuesday at 2:30 p.m. in the Closure Director Operations Center, Bldg. 200, Room 35. "In this meeting it is explained what is going to be looked at during the

walk-through process and how people can ensure the building will pass the walk-through. A number of checklists, from organizations across the board, will be handed out at this meeting," said Harnsberger.

Phase two is the actual on-site walk-through of the building or portion of the building. These on-site walk-through are conducted each Tuesday at 1:30 p.m.

The last phase is the final wrap-up meeting. Wrap-up meetings are scheduled on a case-by-case basis.

"The walk-through is not an inspection, but rather an on-site validation of organizational/unit completion of all Primavera Project Planner activities," said Harnsberger. "The P3 activities include everything from turning in desks and computers, clearing any environmental issues to removing pictures from off the walls."

"After the walk-through is completed there are three items we must be able to say we have completed," said Harnsberger. "We must ensure the LRA's property selections made via the bar code process is done, the turn in of the organizations/units signed off departing checklist for archive records is completed and that all P3 actions needed to deliver the real and personal property to the LRA are completed."

People with questions can call Harnsberger, Jan Miller or Mike Ballengee, at 643-3287.



### Closure Information Corner

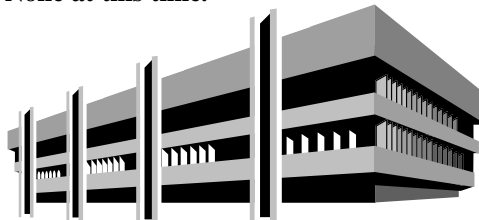
## Total Workdays left until...



#### Building WalkThrough Process Information

Expectations Meeting..... 1st Tuesday of each month, 2:30 p.m.  
Walk Throughs..... Schedule walk through each Tuesday thereafter at 1:30 p.m.  
Project Officer..... Jan Miller, CLC, 643-3287, Ext. 234  
CL web page..... Checklist and other points of contact

#### Building WalkThroughs Scheduled For Next Week None at this time.



# Focus Center Jobs

*This section contains some of the job announcements available at the McClellan FOCUS Centers. For additional information, contact one of the FOCUS Centers: #1 643-5661; #2, 643-0086; #3, 643-6808. FOCUS #2 is open until 7 p.m. on Mondays; #1 is open until 7 p.m. Thursdays.*

**Position:** Accounting Technician, (Data Transcribing), GS-525-05  
**Annc#:** 98-99-DECA  
**Close:** Dec. 31, 1999  
**Agency:** Defense Commissary Agency  
**Location:** McClellan  
**POC:** Brenda Wallace (614) 692-4078  
**Remarks:** Many vacancies, review vacancy announcement and contact agency for KSAs or additional information.

**Position:** Administrative Officer, GS-341-12/13  
**Annc#:** 6-77-120-9  
**Close:** Feb. 1  
**Agency:** Animal & Plant Health Inspection  
**Location:** Sacramento  
**POC:** (612) 370-2187  
**Remarks:** Review vacancy announcement and contact agency for KSAs or additional information.

**Position:** Underwriting Assistant (Office Automation), GS-1101-06  
**Annc#:** F9-RMA-072  
**Close:** Feb. 8  
**Agency:** Risk Mgmt. Agency  
**Location:** Davis  
**POC:** (703) 812-6339  
**Remarks:** Review vacancy announcement and contact agency for KSAs or additional information.

**Position:** Program Clerk (Office Automation), GS-1101-05  
**Annc#:** FSA-KCMO-9-0082  
**Close:** Monday  
**Agency:** Farm Service Agency  
**Location:** Davis  
**POC:** (816) 926-6781  
**Remarks:** Review vacancy announcement and contact agency for KSAs or additional information.

**Position:** Program Support Assistant (Office Automation), GS-303-05/06  
**Annc#:** 99-08DD  
**Close:** Feb. 2  
**Agency:** Veterans Health Administration  
**Location:** Sacramento  
**POC:** (925) 372-2120  
**Remarks:** Review vacancy announcement and contact agency for KSAs or additional information.

**Position:** Equal Employment Opportunity Specialist, GS-360-12/13  
**Annc#:** W-99-03  
**Close:** Feb. 9  
**Agency:** Food & Nutrition  
**Location:** San Francisco  
**POC:** Pauline Lee (415) 705-1321  
**Remarks:** Review vacancy announcement and contact agency for KSAs or more information.

**Position:** Contract Specialist, GS-1102-05/09  
**Annc#:** YOSE-98-39 (Readvertisement)  
**Close:** Monday  
**Agency:** National Park Service  
**Location:** Yosemite NP  
**POC:** Vicki Rose (209) 379-1805  
**Remarks:** Review vacancy announcement and contact agency for KSAs or additional information.  
**Position:** Contract Specialist, GS-1102-11  
**Annc#:** CG#98-280-1DZ  
**Close:** Monday  
**Agency:** U.S. Coast Guard  
**Location:** Alameda  
**POC:** Phone: (919) 790-2822  
**Remarks:** Review vacancy announcement and contact agency for KSAs or additional information.

### Lockheed Martin seeks experienced aircraft workers

Open to all civilian and military employees at McClellan. Lockheed Martin is looking for experienced aircraft workers for the U.S., Middle East, and other overseas locations. Representatives will be in FOCUS Center 1, Bldg. 9, Feb. 8 and 9 from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Bring a scannable resume. Call 643-5561 to schedule interviews. **Appointment only!**

Administrative leave is not approved for this function.

# Moonwalker to deliver inspirational speech during base prayer breakfast

**Chaplain (1st. Lt.) Brian McCormack**  
Base Chapel

McClellan's annual celebration of the National Prayer Breakfast will be 7 a.m. Feb. 11, at the NCO Club.

This year's guest speaker will be former astronaut Charles Duke.

Tickets are \$5. They can be purchased through the Base Chapel or each unit's first sergeants.

Duke, a retired Air Force brigadier general, is one of only a dozen men to have walked on the moon.

As part of the Apollo 16 mission, he and astronaut John Young stepped onto the lunar landscape April 20, 1972, at Descartes, a rugged valley in the moon's central highlands.

Duke recalls, "I didn't have a great speech like Neil Armstrong. I was so excited ... I was like, 'Yahoo, Houston, we've arrived!'"

Duke and Young spent more than 20 hours there collecting rock and soil samples, performing experiments, and soaking in the scenery.



Retired Air Force Brig. Gen. Charles Duke.

Duke describes the moon as stark, surrealistic beauty about it. It was serenity and calm." He relates "spectacularly beautiful. It had a

that the events of that day are etched on his mind forever. "I can remember almost every step I took on the moon, every experience," he said.

The event was even more momentous because it was the Air Force's 25th anniversary and Duke was the only Air Force officer to go into space that year.

Duke is in great demand as a motivational speaker. He has appeared before audiences around the world and has been on many TV shows such as the 700 Club, TBN, Oprah Winfrey, and the Academy of Country Music Awards.

Duke has also co-authored a book, *Moonwalker*, and produced two videos on his lunar adventures.

The National Prayer Breakfast dates back to President Eisenhower's administration and was instituted to seek divine guidance for the national leadership and to reaffirm faith and dependency on God.

This idea has spread to more than 70 countries, many of which now have their own annual national prayer breakfast.

## Tuition assistance program enhances civilian force

The Air Force is getting closer to offering every Air Force member — active duty and civilian — access to tuition assistance to enhance their professional development.

Since September 1996, the Air Staff has pursued a funded civilian tuition assistance program as a quality-of-life issue. On Oct. 7, 1997, Air Force policy established a framework for a CTAP comparable to the military voluntary education assistance program.

The CTAP is designed to benefit the Air Force mission by providing tuition assistance for mission-related courses and to help Air Force civilian non-acquisition employees attain their edu-



cational goals.

Tuition assistance for acquisition personnel under the Defense Acquisition Workforce Improvement Act is mandated by Defense Department policy and supported by acquisition training funds.

While courses must be validated as mission-related, the CTAP differs from standard Air Force training in that employees, rather than manage-

ment, identify requirements, initiate requests for specific courses at institutions of their choice, share in the cost and attend on a voluntary basis.

The program is supported by civilian training funds and supplemented by funds made available by major commands, installations and other sources. Accordingly, the amount of tuition assistance may vary depending on the availability of funds and number of CTAP requirements identified.

For more information, qualified career program registrants should contact their career program manager. All other employees should contact their servicing training office.

## HEALTHCARE

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 3

Congress for nationwide implementation, it will permit Medicare eligible patients to use Medicare to pay for treatment at any military facility, under the TRICARE Senior plan. With two military clinic sites in Sacramento after base closure, you will have the foundation to build upon if Medicare Subvention is approved as a national program.

A military retiree in Medicare still has many choices that others do not have. You will have a choice of DoD pharmacies and the benefit of having access to specialty clinics at DGMC. If you're at least 10 percent disabled, you can use your VA benefits to gain access to the Mather Field Hospital.

In the meantime, make sure you have Medicare, both parts A (patient care) and B (hospitalization). McClellan has an excellent group of Health Insurance Counseling and Advocacy Program volunteers who can help you better understand the complexities of Medicare and your healthcare benefits. Call the Retiree Affairs Office for an appointment at 643-2207. Above all, stay informed!

## Federal employee insurance open season dates change

### One time offer begins April 24-June 30

**Douglas J. Gillert**  
American Forces Press Service

WASHINGTON (AFPN) — The Federal Employees Group Life Insurance program enrollment open season will be from April 24 to June 30.

The Office of Personnel Management changed the dates for a second time to give agencies time to reprogram computers.

Department of Defense officials pointed out this is a one-time offer — not an annual one, as reported by the American Forces Press Service.

During the open season you can stop, start or change your life insurance coverage freely — changes normally are allowed only at certain mile-

stones, such as marriage and retirement.

Changes made during the season will take effect on the first day of the first pay period beginning on or after April 23, 2000.

OPM began phasing in other new insurance options in November. It eliminated caps on the basic term insurance and Option B additional insurance you can purchase.

Additional changes on tap for 1999 allow you to choose unreduced Option B coverage when you retire or to retain Option B coverage if you separate from the civil service or are in a nonpay status that runs out. Option C family coverage also will change, allowing you to elect coverage in multiples up to five times the current amounts of \$5,000 for spouses and \$2,500 for each eligible child.

Forms and information about the insurance program are available on the Internet at <http://www.opm.gov/insure/life/76-21-1.htm>.



# Changes take effect for official travel

*What to claim, how to claim it sees revision*

**Master Sgt. Marvin Kilbourne**  
Financial Services

The General Services Administration, Per Diem, Travel and Transportation Allowance Committee and the Office of the Secretary of Defense recently announced changes to rules governing official travel, effective Jan. 1, 1999.

The changes include a change in how lodging costs are reimbursed, new per diem rates, laundry/dry-cleaning reimbursement for civilians, and a new source for determining mileage.

Lodging taxes are now reimbursed separately for TDY travel, but only within the continental U.S. This change does not apply to overseas travel, including Alaska and Hawaii.

The change will require travelers to claim lodging costs and lodging taxes for CONUS travel separately under reimbursable expenses on their travel voucher. This change was made to correct the problem with taxes causing nightly lodging charges to exceed maximum lodging rates in some cases.

For example: the maximum lodging rate is \$97. The lodging rate for the motel is \$95, plus a \$7 tax for a total cost of \$102. The traveler will be reimbursed \$97 (the maximum lodging rate) per night. In the past, travelers had to apply for Actual Expense Authorization in order to offset the \$5 out-of-pocket expense.

This led to customer dissatisfaction and frustration with having to file a separate request to recoup the out-of-pocket expense.

As a result of the GSA's annual survey of lodging availability and cost, maximum lodging rates decreased in many areas. This will require travelers to exercise greater care when planning their trip. Travelers are responsible for planning their trips in accordance with Federal Travel Regulations, which require government employees to travel prudently, as though they are traveling on their own funds.

With few exceptions, suitable lodging is available at prices below the maximum lodging rates established by the GSA.

Per diem rates and lodging information can be found on the PDTATAC web site at: <http://www.dtic.mil/perdiem/>. Travel pay encourages all those responsible for planning TDYs to consult this web site for the most current information concerning TDY travel.

Civilian travelers are now authorized to claim laundry and dry cleaning expenses for TDY and PCS travel as a separately reimbursable expense.

Previously, this expense was included in the daily \$2 incidental expense paid to all TDY travelers.

Reimbursement for laundry/dry cleaning only applies to CONUS travel, and requires at least four consecutive nights of lodging. PDTATAC

## Air Force changes travel rules

•Lodging taxes are now reimbursed separately for TDY travel, but only within the continental U.S.

•Civilian travelers are now authorized to claim laundry and dry cleaning expenses for TDY and PCS travel as a separately reimbursable expense.

•The Defense Table of Distances has replaced the Official Table of Distances and the Standard Highway Mileage Guide as the only official source for determining mileage for automobile travel.

has decided not to implement this for military travelers pending further research on cost and restrictions.

The Defense Table of Distances has replaced the Official Table of Distances and the Standard Highway Mileage Guide as the only official source for determining mileage for automobile travel. The DTOD can be found at the following web site: <http://dtod-mtmc.belvoir.army.mil>.

This service is available to all federal employees involved with planning official government travel.

To use this web site, you will have to provide a user name and password, which will activate your account within 24 hours. The DTOD is very easy to use, and quite fast.

Questions can be addressed to Master Sgt. Marvin Kilbourne, 643-6999.

## ‘Collocated’ club opens doors Feb. 5

Beginning Feb. 5, the Enlisted and Officers' Clubs will consolidate their operations into a "collocated" facility.

This facility (currently the Officers' Club) will cater to the entire McClellan community -- enlisted, officer, civilian, retiree, etc.

There will be a party held at each club Feb. 4, 5 p.m., to bid farewell to the McClellan clubs.

The following day, Services will hold a grand opening for the new club at 10 a.m. For more information, call 643-3526.

## C-27s fly last mission: to the 'boneyard'

**Tech. Sgt. Rick Burnham**  
24th Wing Public Affairs

DAVIS-MONTHAN AIR FORCE BASE, Ariz. (AFPN) -- For the better part of a decade, 10 Spartans (C-27s) assigned to the 310th Airlift Squadron at Howard Air Force Base, Panama, flew a variety of missions in the region, including humanitarian assistance, peace-keeping and counterdrug missions.

The Spartan, which looks like a toned-down, twin engine version of the C-130, gave U.S. military troops a unique, short-take-off-and-landing capability, providing access to airstrips otherwise unreachable by fixed-wing aircraft.

The final seven Spartans were flown from Panama to Davis-Monthan AFB, Ariz., in two



A C-27 Spartan takes off from a gravel runway in Ecuador waves that began Jan. 8, marking both the end of an era in Panama and the first visible sign of the impending closure of Howard. All U.S. military installations in Panama will be returned to that country by the turn of the century, in accordance with the terms of the Panama Canal Treaty of 1977.

# Medal recognizes outstanding volunteer service

**by Jim Garamone**  
American Forces Press Service

WASHINGTON (AFPN) — The military wants to recognize the efforts of military volunteers who often perform many hours of service in their communities.

The Military Outstanding Volunteer Service Medal honors members' community service, said Army Maj. Bob S. Stone, deputy director of outreach programs in the Defense Department's Reserve Affairs Office. The medal came into being in 1991 as a result of President Bush's "Thousand Points of Light" campaign to encourage volunteerism.

Stone said the medal recognizes the countless hours military members spend helping their communities.

"We have an Air National Guard unit in Virginia that has worked for years helping support the Special Olympics," he said. "This medal gives the individuals involved in the effort some recognition."

Another example is at Fort Hood, Texas, where, "soldiers have been working very closely with schools in the surrounding communities in tutoring, setting up model schools, getting equipment and so on," Stone said. "The medal gives them some official recognition for their efforts."

All service members are eligible for the

award, but most know nothing of it, Stone said. The medal can only be earned through "sustained" community service, Stone added.

"You don't get it for coaching a soccer team for one season, but you could qualify if you work with youth groups for a number of years," he said.

The award is not for duties service members perform as part of their jobs.

"This award recognizes the effort you put in to your community, not your unit," Stone said. "You get this award for things you do during your off-duty hours."

Air Force Instruction 36-2803 has more information.

# McClellan member makes breathing a little easier

Dawn Young  
Staff Writer

Helping to keep the air clean and reduce waste going to landfills is why a McClellan Air Force Base member was recently awarded the United States Air Force General Thomas D. White Pollution Prevention Individual Award.

Don Gronstal, pollution prevention project manager, worked to reduce air emissions, hazardous materials used on base and material going to landfills.

"I feel very honored in receiving this award," said Gronstal. "But, many people at McClellan have worked very hard to reduce or eliminate what we once stored on base or sent to landfills. Now we are being recognized for our efforts."

One area where Gronstal excelled was reducing or eliminating ozone depleting chemicals on the base. Gronstal spearheaded the effort of scanning about 3,000 technical orders for key words that would identify ozone depleting chemicals. Once found, substitutes were identified, approved and documented for permanent process changes.

Through these efforts, more than 99.7 percent of McClellan's man-



Photo courtesy of Environmental Management

Don Gronstal, pollution prevention project manager, inspects hazardous material canisters in the Central Staging Facility.

aged technical orders are free of ozone depleting chemicals.

Having conquered this mountain of a task, Gronstal then set his eyes on changing and improving ordering processes of supplies to reduce or eliminate associated hazardous waste disposal of excess and outdated materials.

The more solid waste that is re-

cycled rather than taken to landfills benefits everyone. Through his leadership, solid waste disposal has been reduced by 47 percent and 98 percent of base green waste has been diverted through grass cycling and composting.

Completing these tasks not only benefited the people at McClellan but also the whole community.

"Don is a very dedicated individual and it is great to see him getting recognition for his pollution prevention efforts," said Paul Brunner, director, McClellan Environmental Management.

Brunner described Gronstal as the type of person who likes his job and one who take his work very seriously.

Seeing a need to share McClellan's ideas and successes in pollution prevention, Gronstal developed a Pollution Prevention area on the McClellan Environmental Management WEB site. He was instrumental in coordinating and conducting the McClellan Pollution Prevention Fair. He also participates in many conferences and seminars to help educate others.

This desire to make more people aware of what they can do in the pollution prevention area was recognized by the United States Environmental Protection Agency when it awarded McClellan with the Activity of the Week Award for its highly successful Pollution Prevention Fair.

Gronstal is now competing for the Department of Defense Environmental Security Award. Winners will be announced in the Spring.

## Air Force recognizes depot for competition workload

The Department of Air Force recognized many employees for their work on the Depot Maintenance Workload Competitions during an awards luncheon yesterday at the McClellan Officers' Club. Tim Beyland, Associate Deputy Assistant Secretary of the Air Force (Contracting) presided at the luncheon and presented the following awards, listed alphabetically:

### Meritorious Service Award

Col. Thomas D. Brown, Jr,	SM-ALC/LA
Capt. Mark C. Cherry,	SM-ALC/LA
Lt. Col. John N. Dufresne,	652 CLSS/CC
Capt. Kevin A. Howard,	SM-ALC/LA
Chief Master Sgt. James N. Sullivan,	SM-ALC/CLX
Lt. Col. Gonzalo I. Vergara,	SM-ALC/CL

### Air Force Commendation Medal

Capt. Dane Cooper,	SAF/FMC
Maj. Alfred Crews Jr.,	SM-ALC/JA
Senior Master Sgt. Jerry Dunmire,	ASC
Maj. Allen R. Naugle,	SM-ALC/EMT
Lt. Col., Meloney J. Stone,	SM-ALC/MQ

### Exemplary Civilian Service Awards

Allen R. Arthur,	OC-ALC/LII
Barry W. Barker,	SM-ALC/LIE
Ralph J. Barsotti,	SM-ALC/LIE
Bradley A. Bowes,	SM-ALC/CLR
Dan E. Bowman,	SM-ALC/CLR
William Carlton,	ASC/PKFB, CLC
Bonnie G. Deen,	SM-ALC/CLC
Dean D. Feitas,	DeCA
James E. Hall,	SM-ALC/FMI
Kenneth J. Harsha,	SM-ALC/PKP-1
Jerry W. Lewis,	SM-ALC/CLR
Don R. Neal,	SM-ALC/PKP-1



U.S. Air Force Photo by Dawn Young

**Left to right:** Jerry W. Lewis from the Closure and Competition Directorate and James E. Hall from Financial Management receive the Exemplary Civilian Service Award from Tim Beyland, Associate Deputy Assistant Secretary of the Air Force (Contracting) during the Depot Maintenance Workload Competition Awards Luncheon Thursday.

Vincent J.S. Riolo,	SM-ALC/CLR
Milton C. Ross,	HQ AFMC/PK
Daniel G.Surface,	SM-ALC/CLR
Gerald K. Sutherland,	SM-ALC/LAFME
Sidney L. Trotter,	OC-ALC/LI
Linda L. Ward,	OC-ALC/LC
Betty Jean Younger,	SM-ALC/LIH
Jerry M. Zimmerman,	OC-ALC/LII



## BULLETIN BOARD



### *F.Y.I.*



#### **UFT Board convenes in April**

The next Undergraduate Flying Training selection board will convene at the Air Force Personnel Center on April 20. This selection board will review applications for both pilot and navigator training. Officers born after Feb. 1, 1972 will be eligible to apply for UFT. Applicants must submit applications to Senior Airman Silvia Wadkins, formal training manager at 77 MSS/DPMAE by Feb. 19. Applicants should advise commanders or supervisors providing AF Form 215 comments of the application deadline. Those applicants requiring a new physical exam should schedule one immediately. All applicants competing for pilot training must also complete the Basic Attributes Test. For more information on application procedures, contact Senior Airman Wadkins at 643-1093.

#### **McClellan Album**

MCA has finished the layout for McClellan's commemorative album. The publisher will require a little over two months to produce the books and should return them by early April. The customers who paid for shipping and handling will receive their albums directly in the mail. Those who chose not to have them mailed will receive a card from MCA, probably in mid to late March, describing the date, time, and place they may pick up their album. For further information contact: The McClellan Commemorative Association, P.O. Box 60474, Sacramento, CA 95860-0474; FAX (916)369-7966; or email [MCAalbum@aol.com](mailto:MCAalbum@aol.com).

MCA is no longer selling the album directly. A limited number of copies are available through the McClellan Aviation Museum, 643-3192.



### *Money matters*



#### **Travel**

Lodging expense exceeding the maximum allowable rate outlined in JFTR Vol. 1, U4210, or JTR Vol. 2, C4602 while on temporary duty may be reimbursable as an Actual Expense Allowance. This allowance can be up to 150 per cent of the local lodging rate. AEA will only be approved if the traveler verified the additional cost is in the best interest of the government. The lowest approval authority is the center commander or vice commander. The request for AEA will be coordinated through the appropriate commanders/directors. The traveler can submit an approved AEA at the time the travel voucher is submitted for settlement. Staff summary sheet formats are available at the FSO. For more information contact, Master Sgt. Marvin Kilbourne at 643-6996.

#### **NationsBank Travel Card**

The new NationsBank Visa Government Travel Card training video for all Air Force Agency Program Coordinators has arrived. Viewing of this training video is mandatory for all primary and alternate APCs and is recommended for all first sergeants and commanders as well. It takes approximately 15 minutes to view the entire video. We will notify all APCs of the date/place/time of this training. For more information, contact Deana Acosta, 643-4141.



### *Banquet*



#### **Awards Banquet scheduled**

The Annual Awards Program to recognize Company Grade Officer, First Sergeant, Senior NCO, NCO, and Airman of the year will take place on Feb. 18, in the NCO Club at 6 p.m. The dinner will begin at 6:30 p.m. The winners in each category will represent McClellan Air Force Base at the Major Air Command level in competition for the 12 Outstanding Airmen of the Year and Company Grade Officer of the Year. This is a mess dress or semi-formal event. For nonmilitary the dress is coat and tie. For the ladies, after five attire is appropriate. The Guest speaker will be Maj. Gen. Robert W. Barrow, California Air National Guard commander. Free baby sitting service at the Child Development Center will be offered to Staff Sergeants and below. Contact your first sergeant for additional details.



### *Education*



#### **Senior NCOA course recalled**

The Educational Programs Cadre, College for Enlisted Professional Military Education, Maxwell AFB, Gunter Annex, Ala. has announced important information regarding senior NCO correspondence course enrollment. The Senior NCO Academy Multimedia Correspondence Course, Course 5, was placed on "Hold," Dec. 16, for an indefinite period of time. Because of a potential software problem with CD-ROM compatibility with some computer CD-ROM drives, EPC made the decision to cease further shipments of Course 5 materials until the problem could be isolated or new materials provided by the contractor. This problem only effects those students who received their course 5 materials after Dec. 6, 1998. All senior NCOs who have received course materials for Course 5 since Dec. 6 must check their software immediately and provide feedback to EPC.

Contact the Base Education Office immediately for further instructions, Bldg. 8, room 219, 643-4776, 9:30 a.m. to 4:30, Monday through Friday.



### *Social*



#### **SMW to meet**

The Society of Military Widows, Sacramento Chapter #5, will celebrate their 25th Anniversary with a luncheon, Feb. 6 at ALDO's Restaurant in the Town and Country Village, 2914 Pasatiempo Lane, Sacramento, Calif. Social hour starts at 11:30 a.m. and lunch is at 12:30 p.m.

For more information, call Edna Brown at 422-0891.



# Hepatitis C: Air Force offers screening to individuals who have had blood transfusions

**Shannon Meyer**

Air Force Materiel Command Public Affairs

WRIGHT-PATTERSON AIR FORCE BASE, Ohio (AFPN) — The U.S. Air Force has joined the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention in offering Hepatitis C virus screening to individuals who received blood transfusions or organ donations prior to 1992.

Hepatitis C testing of donated blood first started in 1990, but truly reliable testing was not available until 1992, said Dr. (Col.) Jerry Owen, chief of aerospace medicine at Air Force Materiel Command.

“We do not want to cause undue concern, but we need to ensure people who received a blood transfusion prior to 1992 are contacted,” Owen said. “They need to be informed and tested.”

Owen calls Hepatitis C a “subtle virus” because people may have no symptoms of the virus until 10 to 20 years after it enters the body. “The virus can cause a low-level infection in the liver

that lasts for years,” he said. “During that time, the infected person can spread it to others and not even know it.”

Also, treatment of the chronic liver disease often lasts for years and can be costly.

The Hepatitis C virus is becoming more widespread and, while most people have heard of it, most do not realize its danger, Owen said. An estimated 4 million people are infected, and it kills 25,000 people annually. Hepatitis C normally spreads from person to person through sexual activity and the sharing of needles.

Although not considered a major cause for spreading the disease, blood transfusions performed before purity tests were established in 1992 had the possibility of infecting people, Owen said.

A few people have immune systems that can overcome the virus, but 85 percent of those infected develop a chronic infection that lurks in the body and can be spread to others. Most will suffer liver damage, particularly if they are ill from other diseases, and some will develop severe dam-

age requiring a liver transplant.

The number of Hepatitis C infections in people who received blood transfusions before 1992 led hospitals to try to find patients who may have received contaminated blood, he said.

The Air Force has taken the first step by reviewing the records of blood donors and identifying possible contaminated blood donations, Owen said.

The next step is educating the public about Hepatitis C and testing individuals who had transfusions or were organ recipients prior to 1992, he said. The insidious nature of Hepatitis C and the great length of time before symptoms appear make it necessary for individuals to be tested for the disease.

People who received a transfusion or organ transplant prior to 1992 should contact their physician or public health representative and discuss testing and prevention.

“We can not contact every at-risk person, so we are hoping people will hear our message and be motivated to protect themselves,” said Owen.

## Important TRICARE warning

**Courtesy of 77th Medical Group**

Since TRICARE Prime started Nov. 1, 1995, the TRICARE Service Center experienced a large amount of enrollment problems between November and January of every year.

Automatic disenrollment is often due to the fact that people procrastinate and do not return the enrollment form in a timely manner.

Sometimes, patients move without giving a current/new address to Foundation Health (the contractor).

Therefore, renewal notices are not received by

the patients and are not returned to the contractor. Also, with the huge amount of junk mail received this time of year, sometimes the forms are thrown in the trash unopened.

Once in a while, TRICARE Prime beneficiaries are automatically disenrolled before they are sent renewal notices.

It is a good idea to verify that your family members show up as “Enrolled” in Foundation’s computer system. This can be accomplished by calling 1-800-406-2832 and selecting option 6 to speak with someone in enrollment. Please call and ensure that your family members are covered.



## Bone marrow donors sought

For many, the holiday season is a time for the Air Force family to celebrate their many blessings and look at how they can reach out and help others.

One such way is through the Department of Defense C. W. Bill Young Marrow Donor Center in Kensington, Md.

This is one of more than 100 donor centers in the United States linked to the National Marrow Donor Program. It was established to recruit volunteer marrow donors from active-duty military, their immediate family members, civil service employees, Reservists and guardsmen.

The primary purpose of the National Marrow Donor Registry is to provide, on a volunteer basis, unrelated donors for patients needing bone marrow transplants.

Bone marrow transplantation is the preferred treatment for more than 60 fatal blood disorders. It is estimated that 25,000 Americans are in need of a transplant each year. The registry offers the possibility of genetically matched bone marrow transplant therapy to 70 percent of the patients who do not have a matched family member as a

potential donor.

In addition to the humanitarian mission, the DoD center has a military contingency mission to provide immediate donor searches and donor follow up in the event of a mass-casualty incident involving chemical or nuclear attacks or related industrial accidents.

The military is the nation’s largest source of whole-blood donations.

Since the program began in 1986, more than 180,000 DoD volunteers have been registered in the marrow donor program.

More than 700 military volunteers provided marrow to a stranger to help save a life, and more than 100 DoD beneficiaries received marrow transplants from National Marrow Donor Program volunteers.

The C.W. Bill Young Marrow Donor Center’s goal is to recruit at least 25,000 military volunteers each year. Anyone interested in this life-saving effort or wanting more information can call 1-800-MARROW-3. You may also call Tech. Sgt. Scott Bement, 77th Medical Group Laboratory, 643-8386.



### Health and Wellness Classes

The Health and Wellness Center offers classes to help you improve your life. Here are a few classes that are starting this week:

**Intro to Lifestyle Fitness**  
Monday and Wednesday  
8 -9 a.m., 5 - 6 p.m.

**Successful Lifestyle Change**  
Tuesday  
8 - 9 a.m.

**Essentials of Strength Training**  
Tuesday  
1 - 2 p.m.

**Cholesterol Class**  
Thursday  
8:30 - 10:30 a.m.

Call the HAWC at 643-4648 to sign up for a class or assessment. The services are open to all active duty, guard, reserve, dependents, retirees, and DoD civilians.

## Now showing at the Base Theater

### Very Bad Things - Friday

*Christian Slater, Cameron Diaz* - Laura has waited almost three decades for holy matrimony, Against her wishes her fiancé, Kyle goes off with four of his buddies to Las Vegas for his bachelor party. Laura decides that nothing will derail her perfect ceremony, not even death. R (strong grisly violence, sexuality, drug use, language) 101min.

### A Bug's Life - Saturday

*Animated* - The ants on Ant Island perform double duty at harvest time, they gather food for themselves and a gang of the grasshoppers. Elik decides to take a

stand against the grasshoppers and enlists the help of flea circus performers. 95 minutes. G

### Psycho - Sunday

*Vince Vaughn, Anne Hache* - Desperate to make a new life for her, Marion Crane steals money from her employer and leaves Phoenix, Arizona. As night falls, she seeks refuge at the desolate Bates Motel. 106 minutes. R (violence, sexuality and nudity.)

Movies start at 7 p.m.  
in Bldg. 1417

## Travis AFB wins Martin Luther King basketball tournament

Chief Master Sgt. K.C. Ward  
77th Support Group

Travis Air Force Base were crowned champions of the 2nd annual Martin Luther King Basketball Tournament.

The road to the championship featured several competitive games.

In games held Friday, McClellan won the opener beating Beale: 81-70; Travis defeated Sac Rebels: 63-53; and in the night-cap, Vandenberg beat Athletes of Action: 59-54.

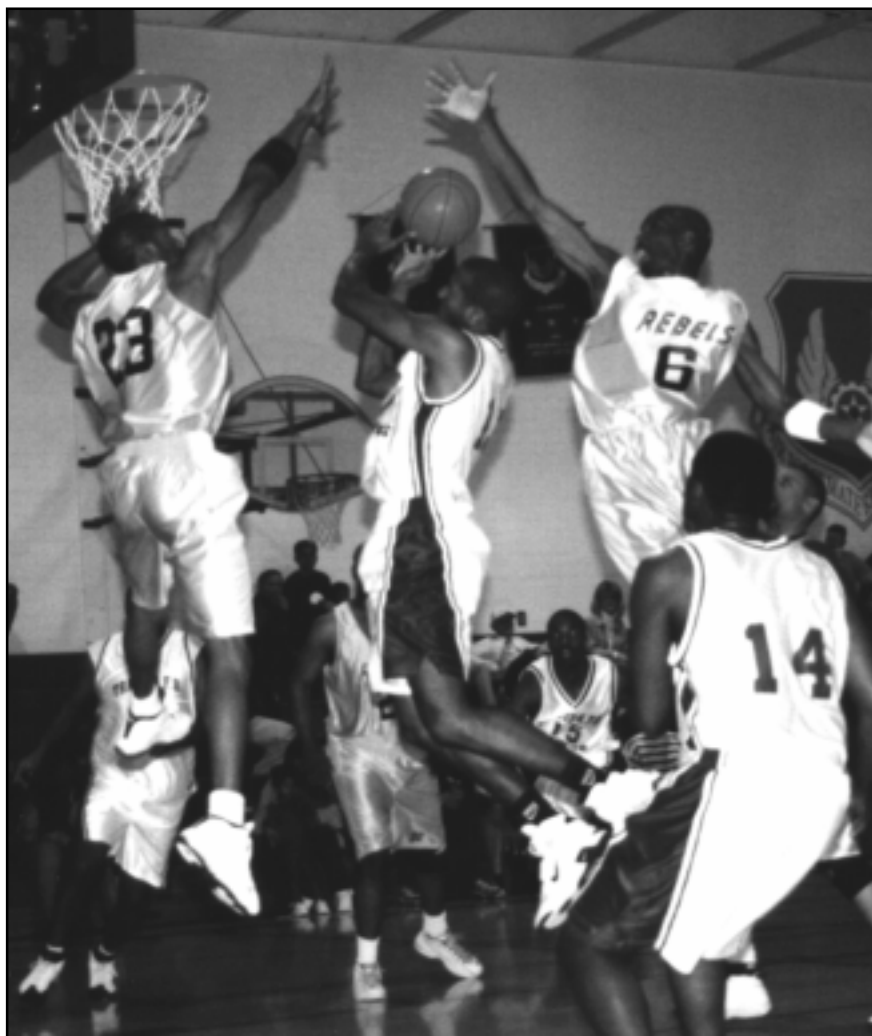
On Saturday, Beale defeated Sac Rebels: 57-52; Travis beat McClellan: 53-41; Vandenberg beat Fairchild: 61-56; Athletes of Action defeated McClellan: 59-48; Beale beat Fairchild: 63-53; Travis beat Vandenberg: 56-52; and Beale beat Athletes of Action: 68-53.

On Sunday, Beale and Vandenberg had to play to determine who would play Travis in the championship game. Beale defeated Vandenberg, 49-42, to set up the championship game.

In the championship game, Travis proved too much for Beale, winning: 75-60.

The tournament was a huge success, thanks in large part to the Services Division; more specifically, the Talbot Fitness Center Staff, Marketing Staff, and the Lodging Staff.

**Above:** The Sac Rebels take on Travis. **Below:** The tournament winners, Travis pose with the booty.



U.S. Air Force Photos by Staff Sgt. Reginald Freeman



### Youth Center

**Today:** Open recreation, 2 - 6 p.m.; gym, 2 - 6; snack bar, 2 - 6 p.m.; skate night, 6:30 - 9 p.m.; grades K-3, \$2 - members, \$4 nonmembers.

**Saturday:** Open recreation, noon - 5 p.m.; gym, closed; snack bar, noon - 5 p.m.; Night Out for ages 15 - 18, 6 - 11 p.m., free for members, \$2 for non-members.

**Sunday:** Closed

**Monday:** Closed

**Tuesday:** Open recreation, 2 - 7 p.m.; open gym, 4:15 - 6 p.m.; snack bar, 2-7 p.m.; beginning gymnastics 2:15 - 3:15 p.m. and 3:15 - 4:15 p.m. Tae Kwon Do, 6 - 7 p.m. and moms and tots group 10 - 11 a.m.

**Wednesday:** Open recreation, gym, and snack bar 2 - 7 p.m.; Couples Communication Class, 6:30 - 7:30 p.m. To sign up, call Family Advocacy at 643-1518.

### Recreation Briefs

#### Fitness Plus

Non-members who join now through Jan. 31 will get one month free when signing up for three or six month membership. Members who bring a friend to join will get one free month (two friend limit).

#### Ski Meet

Hill AFB will host a ski meet March 9 - 12. Active duty and retired military are eligible to compete. For more information, call Al Stone, DSN 777-2225.

#### Services website

Check out the latest Services events for all your recreation and entertainment needs at: [www.mcclellan.af.mil/77ABW/77SPTG/SV](http://www.mcclellan.af.mil/77ABW/77SPTG/SV).

#### Snow mobile Safety Course

A snow mobile safety course is taught every Wednesday, 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. in Bldg. 1439. Classes are free and open to everyone on base. Reservations are not required; just bring a valid ID and show up by 11:30 a.m. This class is required before renting snowmobiles from Outdoor Adventure. To rent a snow mobile, you must be 18 years old.



# Knowledge of Air Force doctrine unifies team

One Team, One Force,  
One Family . . .  
One Great Air Force.

Special Interest Commanders

To be successful, all Air Force officers, airmen and civilian members must understand Air Force doctrine. As the international environment has shifted away from a bi-polar world to one of challenges across the conflict spectrum, we must all better understand how aerospace power fits into joint operations. Air Force doctrine is our foundation and as we move to our Expeditionary Aerospace Force concept, doctrine will guide us. Doctrine provides the Air Force with a com-

mon, integrated vision; it draws from agreed upon best practices supported by history, technology and our insights about the future. It guides commanders and offers all airmen a proven set of principles for how we in the Air Force organize, train for, and execute military operations. Air Force doctrine must be operationally relevant and must be tested, implemented, used and refined. It is not some set of books to be placed on a shelf. We rely on the principles and tenets of doctrine to capitalize on the unique capabilities of aerospace power when providing air and space superiority, global attack, precision engagement, rapid global mobility, information superiority and agile combat support. Our recent build-up in the Gulf epitomized our capability to respond rapidly to a crisis and reinforced our belief in the principles and tenets of aerospace doctrine.

The central clearinghouse for Air Force doctrine is the Air Force Doctrine Center, located at Maxwell AFB. Air Force Doctrine Documents 1 and 2 are the capstone documents that every Air Force member should read. They can be found, along with the other doctrine documents at: [www.usafdoctrine.maxwell.af.mil](http://www.usafdoctrine.maxwell.af.mil). Commanders have a critical role in helping their people understand how doctrine applies to their mission. Take time to guide and inform your people; and help them understand their personal role in the application of aerospace power. We must be able to speak with one voice about the employment and application of aerospace power across the full spectrum of military operations—our common voice is captured in AFDDs. Know them. One Team, One Force, One Family . . . One Great Air Force.

READINESS DIVISION

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

training schedule, training 2,200 base personnel, teaching 120 classes in eight different areas. They also provided weekend training for reserve units and out-of-cycle classes in preparation for a deployment to Beale Air Force Base, Calif.

“Our instructors taught a phenomenal number of classes in 1998, working weekends and providing classes as needed to support deployment needs,” said Stalvey.

Another key to the readiness division’s success is their proactive involvement with the local community on flood related disasters. The implementing of flood mitigation planning during the 1997 and 1998 flood seasons

prevented all but minor flooding and, preserving all mission capabilities.

“We have a great relationship with the community and the Red Cross,” said Stalvey. “This unique cooperation has helped improve the overall readiness of the base and the outlying community in response to flooding.”

Stalvey attributes their success to a dedicated and hard working staff of professionals who take training and responsiveness to heart. But they’re not done yet. As base closure draws nearer, they must pass on their plans to the community.

“We want to ensure that continuity is maintained for the community when we leave,” said Stalvey. “So we will continue providing the best response and planning to pass on.”

CE  
IMA  
of the  
Year

Capt. Richard Donnelly, chief of project management for the 77th Civil Engineer Group was awarded the Air Force Materiel Command Civil Engineer IMA of the Year for 1998.

This significant award recognizes superior job performance for IMA engineers below the grade of brig. gen. Donnelly has worked for Civil Engineers since 1987. His duties include managing in-house and contract design and construction projects. He provides technical guidance on a number of activities for our in-house work force. He has a very strong background as a licensed Professional Civil Engineer.

AWARD

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

ment for any activity,” said James Barone, Sacramento’s Depot Maintenance Business Area chief operations officer. “It is an absolutely incredible achievement for a closing depot.”

In 1998 the Center turned a planned \$36 million organic Depot Maintenance Activity Group working capital fund loss into a \$14 million profit through implementation of four improvement integrated process teams. These extremely effective teams identified significant improvements in maintenance workforce management, material accounting and control, depot production, and financial accounting processes.

This performance was enhanced by the production directors, the director of financial management and the four teams they led to tackle

challenges facing the center which were identified at the start of the year. Collectively they developed a plan for success. Each process team was given specific tasks such as identifying best possible practices and developing streamlined processes for loans and borrows of production personnel. Under the lead of IPTs, the entire maintenance complex was focused on reducing the cost rate at the Center, while pressing to maximize production efficiency, and effectiveness.

Barone explained, the award reflects a tremendous team effort from every level: from great leadership; to the four teams we set up to support materiel, labor, planning and scheduling, and financial processes; to the first level supervisors; to the team which wrote up our accomplishments; to the men and women who actually produced the commodities, the communications and electronics gear, and the airplanes.

Throughout the award period, impressive cost reduction and financial savings procedures were the “order of the day” in all daily operations. Through close teamwork amongst the Financial Management and Comptroller Directorate, organizational resource advisors, and Defense Finance Accounting Service, personnel were able to effect one of the best close-outs in the past eight years. According to Barone, closing depots historically suffer from huge losses, both financially and in productivity. “Our people completely turned this notion around last year. They produced far more work than we had planned and they did it at far less cost,” he said.

During this award reporting period, management officials at the Center pioneered several personnel programs to protect and fortify the workforce during the closure process. Some of the more significant programs instituted were, self-help

programs providing job search and career planning information, application assistance, group and individual instruction. Personnel recognition programs, community programs and humanitarian projects and programs were also developed.

During his tour of McClellan on Dec. 3, 1998, Gen. George T. Babbitt, commander Air Force Materiel Command, briefed upper management on “his opinion” of how things went in 1998 and where he hopes they’ll go in 1999. Babbitt said, “One of the missions is closing the base in a way that takes care of the people while continuing to do the mission. At McClellan, it is going well,” he added.

“This nomination is a great tribute to our people,” said Barone. “It was earned through their pride in what they do, through their commitment to our customers, and their commitment to excellence ... even as their jobs are migrating elsewhere.”

## Scholarship for Youth

Smokey Bassett

SM-ALC Public Affairs

Since 1965 the Commander William S. Stuhr Scholarship Fund has assisted sons and daughters of members of the Armed Forces reach college goals. The fund has awarded more than 150 scholarships to high school seniors of the five services during the past 33 years. It was created to assist military youth who may not be able to benefit from other scholarship programs due to frequent moves.

Local student Patrick A. Yellin was the Air Force 1998 Stuhr Fund recipient. The son of retired Maj. Jerry L. Yellin, Patrick has overcome deafness to achieve major goals in his life. He graduated as the valedictorian from Del Campo High School with a 4.28 grade point average, received the Eagle Scout Award from Fair Oaks Troop 613, Boy Scouts of America, and was presented the “Young American Award” from the local Golden Empire Council BSA. He has earned the martial arts First Degree Shodan Black Belt, and was on his high school’s soccer, cross-country and track teams. Yellin is now attending the University of Agricultural and Environmental Sciences at the University of Calif., Davis.

Application forms for the scholarship must be completed and submitted by the end of the first semester for high school seniors. For more information, send a written request to: Executive Director, Cdr. Stuhr Scholarship Fund, 1200 Fifth Avenue, Ste. 9-D, New York, NY 10029. Enclose a return address label.

# AAFES vice says BX will stay after



Ester A. Stubbs  
Editor

The Army and Air Force Exchange Service vice commander was here last Thursday to tour the McClellan exchange facilities.

During his tour, Brig. Gen. Rodney Wood talked with exchange personnel and customers.

The commander said exchange customers will still have the convenience of using the AAFES facilities at McClellan after base closure.

“Don’t worry; the BX and commissary are going to be here. We [AAFES] will remain here and continue to provide the same high quality customer service and merchandise as always,” said Wood.

“Gen. Wood will support some possible expansion of the McClellan main exchange after closure to include some of the services currently being provided at other McClellan AAFES facilities,” said Tony Sowell, Travis and McClellan Air Force bases AAFES general manager.

U.S. Air Force Photo by Laura J. Williams

Senior Airman Erick Tilton, 938th Engineering Installation Squadron, gives Brig. Gen. Rodney Wood, AAFES vice commander, his overall perspective of the BX. After browsing through the BX last Thursday morning to compare prices, Tilton said the BX “seems to have the best.”



presenting  
**"RED, WHITE & BLUE"**

## Sacramento Memorial Auditorium Feb. 1, 7 p.m. Free show! First come first seated

Save gas and wear and tear on your car. Take a free bus shuttle from the base and Capehart Housing area. Bus schedule is:

Capehart Housing Youth Center at 5 p.m.  
Main Base Post Office at 5:15 p.m.  
Base Chapel 5:30 p.m.  
VIP Bus will depart from the Officer’s Club at 5:30 p.m.

Reservations are not accepted for transportation. Plenty of seats area available. For information call 643-4822.

### Love Lines

Does Cupid need a helping hand this Valentine season? The *Spacemaker* will dedicate a page in the Feb. 11 issue for base employees and family members to express themselves with innovative Valentine messages to their loved ones and significant others.

Complete the right portion of this box and get it to the *Spacemaker* by close of business Feb. 3. No Love Lines will be accepted after the deadline. The message must be in good taste, legible and no more than 20 words.

Inappropriate Love Lines will not be printed. Include your name and daytime phone number in case the Spacemaker staff has any questions. Mail the message to:

*Spacemaker*  
3237 Peacekeeper Way, Suite 5  
McClellan AFB, CA 95652-1048

or drop off the Love Line in Bldg. 200, Rm. 125.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Daytime Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Message: \_\_\_\_\_

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